

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 are allowed. New Claims 36 and 37 have been added. Applicants respectfully request an amendment after allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.312 in the instant Application.

Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to MPEP 714.16(d) which states:

After the Notice of Allowance has been mailed, the application is technically no longer under the jurisdiction of the primary examiner. He or she can, however, make examiner's amendments (see MPEP § 1302.04) and has authority to enter amendments submitted after Notice of Allowance of an application which embody merely the correction of formal matters in the specification or drawing, or formal matters in a claim without changing the scope thereof, or the cancellation of claims from the application, without forwarding to the supervisory patent examiner for approval.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has the authority to amend and/or add claims that do not change the scope thereof.

Applicants also respectfully request that newly added dependent claims 36-37 be entered as these new claims at least further limit or provide subject matter of similar scope as compared to the allowed claims, and are fully supported by the Specification. Claims 36 and 37 call for a computer readable program storage device encoded with instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs a method that comprises steps that are the same as the steps recited in the allowed claims 32 and 33, respectively. Further the preambles of claims 36 and 37 are the same as the preambles of allowed claims 23 and 24, respectively. Therefore, since the preambles, as well as the claim elements of the newly added claims 36 and 37 are same as preambles and elements of other allowed claims, Applicants respectfully submit that adding these claims do not change the scope of the allowed subject matter. Accordingly, the Examiner certainly has authority to enter these amendments under MPEP 714.16(d) and MPEP 1302.04, and Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter these amendments.

Applicant submits that all newly added claims are narrower or similar in scope as compared to the allowed claims and as noted above, all newly added claims are fully supported by the originally filed Specification of the present application. Accordingly, newly added claims herein do not change the scope thereof and are fully comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.312. Applicant respectfully requests that the newly added claims be entered.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the Houston, Texas telephone number (713) 934-4069.

Respectfully submitted,

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